

TIMELINES

Students practice using a timeline to study

Zone In

Free Write

1. Students write as many words as possible in 1 minute.
2. Write on the board the target number of words for the group (10 times the number of students). Students don't have to worry about spelling—just quantity and speed.
3. Give the keyword INDEPENDENCE. Say GO; time 1 minute. STOP.
4. Students count their words. Add everyone's total to get the total for the group. Did the group make the goal? Ask for volunteers to read their lists.

Topic

Using timelines to study

(Materials: **Happy Birthday America** ♦♦ and index cards)

Introduction

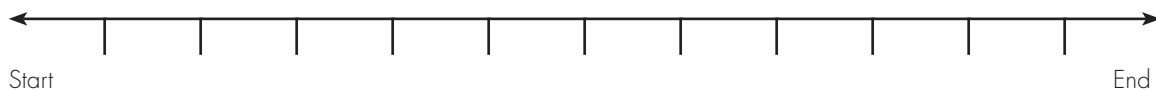
Ask: What are time lines used for? When have students seen timelines?

Possible answers:

- Timelines show dates and events in the order they happened.
- They show how events in history relate to each other.
- Timelines can show what was going on in different places in the world at the same time.
- Timelines are seen in newspapers, books, and tests.
- Timelines can help map out information and help in studying.

Ask: How do you read a timeline?

Answer: Timelines read from left to right. The earliest date is on the left end of the timeline. The last date is on the right end of the timeline. All other dates are listed chronologically from left to right.



Explain: A timeline of your entire life starts with the day you were born (on the left) and ends with today's date. Events are listed in between those two dates from the earliest to the latest.

Ask for a volunteer to come up to the board to do a timeline of his or her life.

Activity

Give out the **Happy Birthday America ♦♦** and an index card. Have students draw a timeline on the index card and plot the dates and events from the reading.

Wrap Up

How could a timeline be interesting or helpful to you?



CLINIC 17 HANDOUT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA

July fourth is one of the most important days in the American holiday calendar because it is America's birthday. What actually happened on this day? How do people celebrate it? Read on to find out.

The history of the Declaration of Independence

The Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776. At the time, North America was a British colony. After the French-Indian Wars, the British had a huge national debt because the wars had been so expensive. The country raised taxes in their 13 North American colonies to help pay the debt. The people living in the colonies resented the taxes because they did not have any representation in the British government.

In 1774, the colonies started a revolutionary war against British rule. Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence and, on July 4th, 1776, nine of the 13 colonies approved it. To Plater renamed the "Liberty Bell." It can be seen in the Independence Hall in Philadelphia today.

The making of modern America

Establishing the US Congress, Constitution, and President took several years. Peace with Britain was made in Paris in 1783. In 1789, George Washington became the first President of the United States.

The Star-Spangled Banner

The most important symbol of American independence is its flag. The flag is known by three different names: the Star-Spangled Banner, the Stars and Stripes, and "Old Glory." The first Star-Spangled Banner was sewn by a friend of George Washington, Betsy Ross, in 1776.

In the first flag, there were 13 stars and 13 stripes to represent the 13 colonies. The stars were placed in a circle to show that no colony could be viewed above another. Today's flag has 50 stars to represent the 50 United States. There are a few theories about why the colors were chosen. In 1782, the Congress of the Confederation claimed that white was chosen for purity, red for bravery, and blue for justice.

Celebrations

Today, July fourth is celebrated with parades, marching bands, picnics and fireworks. Some people wear red, white, and blue clothes, and decorate their homes with red, white and blue streamers. It's a big party for Americans everywhere. Some of the biggest celebrations are in Virginia, New York, Arizona and California.

Food

Eating strawberries, blueberries, and whipped cream is typical. The most traditional dish has to be mom's apple pie. "As American as apple pie" is a common saying.